

degree in computer science from the University of Maryland in 1985 and a master's degree in aeronautical engineering from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in 1992.

Commander McCool described his path to aviation as a series of doors of opportunity opening to him, first the door to the Naval Academy and then another to naval aviation. Then in 1996, NASA accepted Commander McCool for astronaut shuttle training, and he, his wife, Lani, and their three sons moved to Houston.

Commander McCool's experience as a test pilot, and his reputation as one of the Navy's elite aviators, led to his opportunity to fly on the *Columbia*. Commander McCool dedicated himself to space exploration and to the progress of mankind. He brought his extraordinary gift to students in the classroom through a NASA Program that sent astronauts to speak with students. Commander McCool had a unique ability to reach the students and cherished this opportunity. Because of these opportunities to speak with students, he dreamed of retiring from NASA and becoming a high school science teacher.

Commander McCool would be pleased to know that children name him as a personal inspiration. Children all over the country say that Commander McCool has inspired them to go after their dreams, to not give up, and to achieve. He taught them that you do not have to be extremely wealthy or a genius to reach one's dreams. Commander McCool was a regular person and believed regular people who set goals and work hard can produce great things.

Space travel and exploration excited Commander McCool and he believed that the experiments on board the *Columbia* would improve people's lives on earth. Commander McCool and his crew mates were concerned about the environment and the well-being of people on this earth. The crew hoped, through their flight, to set an example for others as to the importance of working in harmony for the betterment of the planet, its environment and all humanity. While aboard *Columbia*, Commander McCool said "I've had the opportunity to be on the flight deck, to look outside and really soak up the sunrises and sunsets, the moonrises and moonsets, the views of the Himalayas, Australia, all the continents." Commander McCool will be remembered for articulating to all of us his awe of the majesty and mystery of space, his dedication to advancing our knowledge, and his love for his family. As Audrey said of her son, "He did not die in vain."

#### HONORING CINDY JONES AND HER DEDICATION TO TEACHING

#### HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 29, 2003*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Cindy Jones and her induction into the National Teachers Hall of Fame. Cindy teaches elementary education at Cason Lane Academy in my hometown of Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Only five teachers nationwide are inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame each year. Cindy's outstanding service and dedica-

tion to the teaching profession have earned her this distinguished recognition.

Cindy has helped develop and enhance several after-school programs in Murfreesboro. She belongs to a host of professional associations, including the National Education Association, the Tennessee Education Association, the Murfreesboro Education Association, the Mary Tom Berry Reading Association, the American Psychological Association, Cognition and Phi Kappa Phi.

In addition to helping her students attain excellent educations, Cindy has aided her peers through participation in a number of workshops and seminars. She has even presented a research paper in Durham, England, at the International Neurological Symposium. And she has coauthored three professional publications regarding developmental cognitive neurolinguistics.

I salute Cindy's remarkable achievements not only as an educator, but also as a citizen who is ensuring our society has the resources it needs to succeed. Our children, after all, reap the rewards of the hard work and determination that people like Cindy possess. She is a truly gifted educator who has made a tremendous difference in the lives of so many.

#### ROOSEVELT WILSON: A PILLAR IN THE COMMUNITY

#### HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 29, 2003*

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who is closing one chapter in his illustrious career. Mr. Roosevelt Wilson or "Prof. Wilson", as his journalism students call him, is being honored tonight in Tallahassee, Florida. After nearly 18 years of teaching journalism, Mr. Wilson is retiring from the Florida A&M University School of Journalism, Media and Graphic Arts, and is being recognized at a special retirement banquet in his honor from Florida A&M University. Tonight journalism students, family, friends, former athletes and community leaders will gather to honor and pay tribute to this remarkable man who has influenced and touched so many lives.

Throughout many crossroads in my personal and professional career, Mr. Wilson has played a critical role. As a high school senior who was eager to play for the world-famous Florida A&M University Rattler football team, Mr. Wilson helped me and countless other athletes secure scholarships. As Sports Information Director and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics at Florida A&M University, Mr. Wilson's wisdom and real-world advice were inspirational to thousands of bright-eyed student athletes with dreams of gridiron success.

In 1991, Mr. Wilson embarked on a new venture as publisher of a weekly African-American Newspaper, the Capitol Outlook. With the help of family and friends, Mr. Wilson turned a small weekly paper into an award-winning nationally recognized publication. Every week more than 16,000 readers across the state read this weekly paper for its political, community and feature coverage. As publisher of the Capitol Outlook, Mr. Wilson's weekly columns have won national awards and the newspaper has been cited for excel-

lence in editorial writing, public service, creativity and religion coverage. In addition, the Capitol Outlook was cited by the local Chamber of Commerce for business excellence.

Words are inadequate to describe Mr. Wilson's contribution to the publishing and broadcasting world. In 2000, Mr. Wilson's coverage of the Executive Order eliminating affirmative action in the state of Florida and the public outcry that ensued was recognized for its objectivity and fairness. Furthermore, his weekly call-in radio show "Against the Grain" has become one of the most popular radio shows reaching thousands of listeners across North Florida.

Throughout his professional career, Mr. Wilson has been honored for his community work and academic achievements on several occasions. In 1999, he was inducted into the Florida A&M University Sports Hall of Fame. He has also been recognized as Florida Teacher of the Year by Florida A&M University and the NAACP honored him with their Community Service Award.

As Florida A&M University honors Mr. Roosevelt Wilson, I praise this man for his boundless energy and his commitment to the University. I congratulate Mr. Wilson on his retirement and praise him for all that he has sacrificed on behalf of his students. Mr. Wilson's legacy as a teacher and educator will live on through the thousands of students who've passed through his classes and the thousands of athletes who've passed through his office door. His legacy as a wordsmith will continue to live on through his columns, pictures, articles, and radio broadcasts. I am honored to call him a friend and a mentor.

#### JAVITS-WAGNER-O'DAY PROGRAM

#### HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 29, 2003*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, for the past 64 years the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program has empowered Americans who are blind or severely disabled by providing them with a diverse set of employment opportunities. Today 38,000 disabled Americans are realizing their potential by working in their local communities across the country under this program. These Americans are proud to provide federal and military customers with a wide array of SKILCRAFT® and other JWOD products and services. The JWOD Program prides itself on delivering high quality products and services at a competitive price in the most convenient way possible.

Some of the product categories offered by the JWOD program include office supplies, military specific, safety, maintenance, repair, medical-surgical, janitorial-sanitation, and customization. The services that are provided to the federal and military customer include but aren't limited to call center and switchboard operation, military base and federal office building supply centers, CD-Rom duplication-replication, data entry, document imaging and grounds care.

I rise today in support of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program and the opportunities it provides for an underemployed population of hard working Americans. Furthermore, I urge my colleagues to purchase SKILCRAFT® and